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REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO AN APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.14(e)

In re Application of

Application Number

08/377,450

Filed

Jan. 24, 95

Art Unit

Examiner

Paper No. 37

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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☐ (A) referred to in:

United States Patent Application Publication No. _____, page _____, line _____

United States Patent Number 6,577,467, column _____, line _____, or

an International Application which was filed on or after November 29, 2000 and which

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☐ (B) referred to in an application that is open to public inspection as set forth in 37 CFR 1.11(b) or

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Patent Number: 06577467

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US006577467B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Hoge et al.

(10) Patent No.: **US 6,577,467 B2**
(45) Date of Patent: **Jun. 10, 2003**

(54) **HELICAL SCAN TRANSPORT FOR SINGLE REEL TAPE CARTRIDGE**

5,478,021 A * 12/1995 Davis et al. 242/332.1
5,629,815 A * 5/1997 Cheatham et al. 360/84

(75) Inventors: **David T. Hoge, Westminster, CO (US); William C. Dodt, Broomfield, CO (US); John C. Owens, Arvada, CO (US)**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS
JP 6-274985 * 9/1994
OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(73) Assignee: **Storage Technology Corporation, Louisville, CO (US)**

"Single Reel Tape Cartridge for Helical Scan Drive—has leader block and tape onto second reel unreel before tape is drawn adjacent helical scan drive" Nov. 10, 1987, Research Document 283069 A.*

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

* cited by examiner

(21) Appl. No.: **10/059,915**

Primary Examiner—William Klimowicz
(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Wayne P. Bailey

(22) Filed: **Jan. 28, 2002**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2002/0105753 A1 Aug. 8, 2002

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 08/377,450, filed on Jan. 24, 1995, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/060,653, filed on May 13, 1993, now abandoned.

(51) Int. Cl.⁷ **G11B 15/67; G03B 1/56**

(52) U.S. Cl. **360/85; 360/95; 242/332; 242/332.4; 242/348.3; 226/92**

(58) Field of Search **360/85, 95, 132; 242/332.7, 332.8, 332, 332.4, 332.1, 348, 348.3; 226/92**

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3,849,796 A * 11/1974 Omiya et al. 242/348
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5,374,003 A * 12/1994 Hoge et al. 242/332.7

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A helical scan transport apparatus for reading and writing data on to a magnetic recording tape which is wound on a supply reel rotatably mounted within a removable tape cartridge includes a chassis having a front end portion and rear end portion. An elevator assembly is mounted on the chassis at the front end. The elevator assembly is configured to receive the tape cartridge and to position the tape cartridge in a loaded position. A take-up reel assembly is coupled to the chassis at the rear end position. A helical deck is mounted on a central portion of the chassis between the elevator assembly and the take-up reel assembly. The helical deck includes a rotary read/write head, a substantially linear tape loading path between the elevator assembly and the take-up reel assembly, and a movable guide for the seizing the tape from the tape loading path and for at least partially wrapping the tape around the rotary head. A linear threading mechanism is configured to grasp the leader block of the tape, thread the tape through the tape loading path of the helical deck, and couple the leader block to the take-up reel assembly. The helical transport has a form factor compatible with the Storage Technology Corporation Model 4400 Automated Cartridge System.

7 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets

